

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 11887 132100Z

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ACTION VO-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3884

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 11887

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CVIS, ELAB, UK

SUBJECT: REACTION TO MCGAHEY VISIT FROM TUC LEADER JENKINS

REF: (A) LONDON 9266; (B) LONDON 5977 AND PREVIOUS

1. CLIVE JENKINS, ASTMS GENERAL SECRETARY AND A MEMBER OF THE TUC GENERAL COUNCIL, TOLD EMBASSY OFFICERS THAT HE WAS SERIOUSLY DISTURBED, ANGERED AND EMBARRASSED, BY THE FACT THAT THE WELL-KNOWN COMMUNIST LEADER, MICK MCGAHEY, VICE PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL UNION OF MINERS, WAS GIVEN A VISA TO GO TO THE UNITED STATES (REF A), WHILE TWO OFFICIALS OF HIS OWN UNION--ALSO COMMUNISTS--WERE TURNED DOWN (REF B AND PREVIOUS).

2. DESPITE THE FACT THAT IT WAS POINTED OUT TO HIM THAT IT WAS POINTED OUT TO HIM THAT THE SITUATIONS WERE DIFFERENT AND THAT MCGAHEY VISITED THE US AS AN OFFICIAL OF A UK GOVERNMENT DELEGATION DEALING WITH THE COAL INDUSTRY, JENKINS REMAINED TOTALLY UNPLACATED. HE MADE HIS COMMENTS ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS DURING THE COURSE OF THE TUC CONFERENCE IN BRIGHTON TO TWO EMBASSY OFFICERS AND--ON ONE OCCASION--IN THE PRESENCE OF LABOR JOURNALISTS. (WE ARE NOT AWARE, HOWEVER, OF ANY REFERENCE TO THIS ISSUE IN THE LONDON-BASED PRESS).
SOHM

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
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